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## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (amended) A water-containing powder composition comprising aqueous gel cores, obtained by gelling an aqueous phase ingredient with a water-soluble gellant, coated with hydrophobic particles, wherein the aqueous gellant is one or more components selected from the group consisting of agar, gelatin, carageenan, gellan gum, and magnesium sodium silicate.

- 2. (amended) The water-containing powder composition of claim 1, wherein the aqueous gel cores are obtained by gelling an aqueous phase ingredient with a water-soluble gellant, which is one or more components selected from the group consisting of agar, gelatin, carageenan, gellan gum, and magnesium sodium silicate, and freeze-shattering the gel.
- 3. The water-containing powder composition of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the hydrophobic particles have a particle diameter of 1/10 or less of the particle diameter of the aqueous gel cores.

## 4. (Deleted)

5. (amended) The water-containing powder composition of any one of claims 1-3, wherein the cores obtained from the aqueous gel are powdered gel cores.

- 6. (amended) A process for manufacturing a water-containing powder composition comprising gelling an aqueous phase ingredient with a water-soluble gellant, which is one or more components selected from the group consisting of agar, gelatin, carageenan, gellan gum, and magnesium sodium silicate, to form aqueous gel cores, and coating the aqueous gel cores with hydrophobic particles.
- 7. The process for manufacturing the water-containing powder composition of claim 6, wherein the aqueous phase ingredient caused to gel using a water-soluble gellant is formed into powdered aqueous gel cores by freeze-shattering.
- 8/ A cosmetic preparation comprising the water-containing powder composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5.
- 9. A method of applying makeup, comprising applying the cosmetic preparation of claim 8 to the skin and applying pressure to cause water to release from said composition.